

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

CECIL JONES,)	
Plaintiff)	
)	
vs.)	CIVIL ACTION NO:
)	
F/V LADY DEBORAH, LLC.,)	
Defendant)	
)	

PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

Parties and Jurisdiction

1. The plaintiff, Cecil Jones, is a resident of Pokomoke City, Maryland.
2. The defendant, F/V Lady Deborah, LLC, is a foreign corporation having a principal place of business in Oriental, North Carolina and conducting business within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
3. On or about July 9, 2019, the plaintiff was employed as a seaman, and member of the crew of the F/V LADY DEBORAH.
4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to The Merchant Marine Act of 1920, commonly called the Jones Act, 46 U.S.C., §688 et seq.
5. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331 and 28 U.S.C. §1333.

COUNT I

Jones Act Negligence

6. The plaintiff re-alleges all the facts set forth in paragraphs 1 through 5 above.

7. On or about July 9, 2019, while in the performance of his duties in the service of the F/V LADY DEBORAH, the plaintiff, sustained severe personal injuries to his left foot when it was crushed by the vessel's dredge while the vessel was docked in the port of New Bedford,

Massachusetts.

8. At all times relevant hereto, the plaintiff was exercising due care for his own safety and well-being.

9. The plaintiff's injuries were caused by the negligence of the defendant.

10. The plaintiff's injuries were caused by the defendant's failure to use and maintain a safe and proper place in which to work.

11. The plaintiff's injuries were caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the defendant, its officers, agents or employees in that they failed to use reasonable care to provide safe and sufficient machinery, appliances, appurtenances and equipment.

12. The plaintiff's injuries were caused by the negligence of the defendant in other respects as may appear at the trial.

13. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiff suffered pain and mental anguish, incurred medical expenses, lost time from his usual work, and has sustained and will sustain other damages as will be shown at trial.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Cecil Jones, demands judgment against Defendant, F/V Lady Deborah, LLC in a fair, just and reasonable amount as this Honorable Court shall deem just and proper.

COUNT II

General Maritime Law - Unseaworthiness

14. The plaintiff re-alleges all the facts set forth in paragraphs 1 through 13 above.
15. The plaintiff's injuries were caused by reason of failure of the defendant to provide and maintain a seaworthy vessel and/or proper and suitable appliances and equipment. This cause of action herein set forth is known as unseaworthiness under the General Maritime Law.
16. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiff suffered pain and mental anguish, incurred medical expenses, lost a long time from his usual work and will continue to suffer pain and mental anguish, incur medical expenses and lose time from his usual work, all to his damage.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Cecil Jones, demands judgment against Defendant, F/V Lady Deborah, LLC in a fair, just and reasonable amount as this Honorable Court shall deem just and proper.

COUNT III

General Maritime Law – Maintenance and Cure

17. The plaintiff re-alleges all the facts set forth in paragraphs 1 through 17 herein and in addition thereto respectfully alleges:
18. The plaintiff was injured while in the performance of his duties aboard the said vessels, and the plaintiff under the General Maritime Law is therefore entitled to maintenance and cure.

19. The plaintiff was injured while in the performance of his duties aboard the said vessels, and the plaintiff under the General Maritime Law is therefore entitled to maintenance and cure for a reasonable period of his disability.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Cecil Jones, demands judgment against Defendant, F/V Lady Deborah, LLC in a fair, just and reasonable amount as this Honorable Court shall deem just and proper.

PLAINTIFF REQUESTS TRIAL BY JURY

Date: June 29, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

CECIL JONES

By his attorneys,

"/s/ Matthew Viveiros, Esq.

Matthew Viveiros, Esq.
BBO# 674224
HUNT & VIVEIROS, LLC
18 North Water Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 994-7300
(508) 984-0755 Facsimile
mv@huntviveiroslaw.com